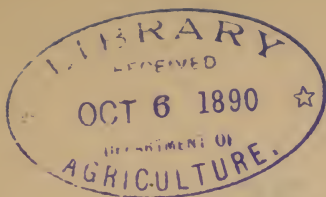


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OCTOBER 1, 1890.

Issued Every Week.

\$1.00 a year, in advance.

Single copy 5 cents.

# Farmer

AND

NEW FARM.

OUR 27TH YEAR.

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When every family own their home, the prosperity of the Country is assured.

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WALWORTH & CO.,  
BALTIMORE, MD.

# March--April--May

Are months when Ayer's Sarsaparilla proves especially beneficial. The free use of animal food during winter, while living in over-heated, ill-ventilated rooms, and taking insufficient out-door exercise, tends to load the blood with impurities, which manifest themselves in liver complaint, bilious disturbances, *that tired feeling*, eruptions, and various other disorders. Ayer's Sarsaparilla, being a powerful and highly-concentrated alternative, is the most effective and economical spring medicine ever prepared. Take it yourself and give it to your children.

"For several years, in the spring months, I used to be troubled with a drowsy, tired feeling, and a dull pain in the small of my back, so bad, at times, as to prevent my being able to walk, the least sudden motion causing me severe distress. Frequently, boils and rashes would break out on various parts of the body. By the advice of friends and my family physician, I began the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla and continued it till the poison in my blood was thoroughly eradicated."—Luther W. English, Montgomery City, Mo.

"I have used Ayer's Sarsaparilla as a remedy for the various diseases common to the spring time, and also as a tonic for the system. I find it to be very efficacious, and think that every one who is troubled with impurities of the blood should try Ayer's Sarsaparilla. I am sure it has no equal as a blood-purifier."—C. E. Jaquith, Nashua, N. H.

"Every spring for the last nine years I have been in the habit of taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and I can truly say that I never used any medicine that did me so much good. I am convinced that it is the best medicine of the kind in the market, and recommend it to all who are in need of a reliable and effective blood-purifier."—J. A. Shepard, Proprietor of "Shepard's Paragon Varnish," 246 Pearl st., New York city.

"My wife always uses Ayer's Sarsaparilla as a spring medicine, and with wonderfully good results."—J. L. Minty, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

"I have used Ayer's Sarsaparilla with great benefit, as a spring medicine and purifier of the blood, and would not willingly be without it."—Mrs. S. H. Pray, E. Boston, Mass.

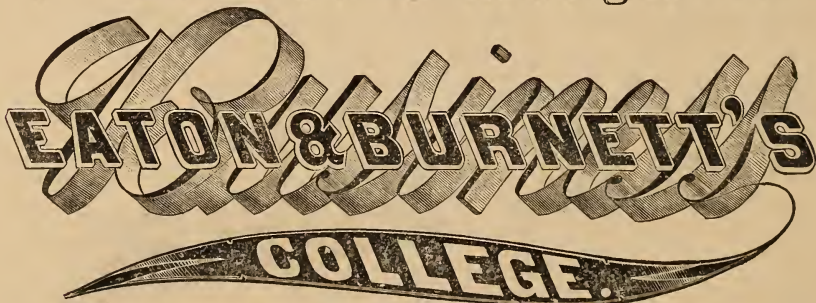
"I have received wonderful benefit from the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It purifies the blood and is the best spring medicine I know of."—Mrs. H. W. Hardy, Roxbury, Mass.

## Ayer's Sarsaparilla,

Prepared by DR. J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists.

Price \$1. Six bottles, \$5. Worth \$5 a bottle.

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Practical Book keeping, Business Correspondence,  
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Practice, Practical Grammar, Spelling, Shorthand,  
Typewriting and Telegraphing, &c., &c.

## EATON & BURNETT,

NORTHEAST COR. BALTIMORE & CHARLES ST.  
BALTIMORE, MD.





*Agriculture, Horticulture, Live Stock and Rural Economy,*

THE OLDEST AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN MARYLAND, AND FOR TEN YEARS THE ONLY ONE.

*AND* NEW FARM.

Vol. XXVII. BALTIMORE, October 1, 1890.

No. 40.

## LIVE IT DOWN.

Has your life a bitter sorrow ?  
 Live it down.  
 Think about a bright To-morrow,  
 Live it down.  
 You will find it never pays  
 Just to sit, wet-eyed, and gaze  
 On the grave of vanished days ;  
 Live it down.

Is disgrace your galling burden ?  
 Live it down.  
 You can win a brave heart's guerdon,  
 Live it down.  
 Make your life so free of blame,  
 That the luster of your fame  
 Shall hide all the olden shame,  
 Live it down.

Has your heart a secret trouble ?  
 Live it down.  
 Unless griefs will make it double,  
 Live it down.  
 Do not water it with tears,  
 Do not feed it with your fears,  
 Do not nurse it through the years ;  
 Live it down.

Have you made some awful error ?  
 Live it down.  
 Do not hide your face in terror ;  
 Live it down.  
 Look the world square in the eyes ;  
 Go ahead as one who tries  
 To be honored, ere he dies ;  
 Live it down.

For the Maryland Farmer.

## OUR NEW FARM, XV.

### THE CHICKENS.

"Father," said my wife one day. "I have been looking at the chicken house since you cleaned it out, and it don't suit me."

"What's the matter with it?" I asked.

"It does not look right inside. The outside is all right; but it should be white-washed inside, too."

Then I said:

"All right. Set Lizzie at work at that. Our work is pushing us so much that Chrsley can't be spared now."

"But before Lizzie does the white-washing," she said, "I want the nests and roosts changed, and Lizzie can't do that. It needs a strong man to handle all those boards."

Then I said:

"Arn't those nests good enough? There seems to be about twenty of them in that cluster along the wall and the hens are using them all right."

Then she answered:

"But they are all exposed, so that I can't look into the house, without disturbing every hen on the nests. Then several of the hens roost on the top nests and everything gets dirty."

I said:

"To remedy that they will all have to come down and it will take me the best part of the day to fix them."

She looked a little perplexed and said:

"Well, I think they will do a great deal better if the nests are changed. They should not be way up on the wall that way; but somewhere down on the ground."

I laughed as I answered:

"Well, I will get to work at it before long. But the best nests are in the barn and out under the shed where the cart stands."

She then answered:

"That is just what's the matter. I want the nests in the chicken house so attractive that they will go there instead of in the barn."

But I told her:

"Oh, you'll never reform the chickens in that respect. They'll stick to the barn—you may depend upon that."

But she was not convinced, and said:

"Well, perhaps I can't reform wholly this set of chickens; but I can try these, and the future flocks can be taught right, if I have the nests right."

So I said to her:

"You tell me how, and I'll do my best to have them right. How do you want them."

Then she said with a bright smile:

"I want this all torn down. Then I want just a lot of boxes about fifteen inches square and open on one side, and I will do the rest."

My reply was to take hold of the end of one row of the nests, for we had gradually walked up to and into the chicken house, and down came the whole in a heap on the floor.

Then I exclaimed:

"Why, it's a wonder they have not all been down before this."

I had intended only to see how substantially they were put up, not thinking of touching the work for the present. But I said:

"Now I will have to do something, won't I? Well I might as well pull the roosts down and place them where they should be."

At that my wife retreated: and it was not many minutes before my girl's head was in the door way. She said:

"Oh, what a smother! Father, have you seen my little chickens? I've got just ten of the cutest little downy fellows you ever saw."

Then I said:

"All right, my little girl; but you just wait 'till they get the gapes and then you won't think them so nice."

She answered:

"Oh, I will have a hundred or more before these get large enough for that."

My reply was:

"Don't count your chickens before they're hatched."

However, she said:

"Just come and see what little downy puffs they are. Mr. Burns said they were Plymouth Rock eggs; but they ain't speckled at all."

I only laughed at that, and said:

"Wait till they get a little older and perhaps that little spot on their heads will go all over their bodies."

They had set a good many eggs, which they had procured from their neighbors or supplied from their own flock. I told them not to trouble themselves about fancy stock; but get what they could this year and perhaps the future would bring something better. But they had managed to obtain a variety by exchanging eggs and all the neighbors were anxious to help them as much as they could.

The young people were especially interested in showing my girl all about how to set the hens and took more pleasure in seeing her delight over the little chicks than if they were their own.

I made the nest boxes in a rude way now; but I have since found the poultry business of enough importance to warrant my having everything comfortable and of the very best, for them. I also put all the roosts about two feet above the ground. But I did not care then to make many improvements so as to have the food boxes, drinking fountains, etc. in this house. I suppose I was very much like most of farmers and rather looked upon them as a necessary evil than as a profit.

But before the next Spring I had changed

my mind very much in this respect. My wife and my daughter had used many chickens and ducks in the family and had sold enough to prove their value as excellent stock. Of course we could not any of us pretend to know much about poultry, but were forced to do the best we knew how whenever our experience was lacking.

The ducks were the greatest trouble to us, although they were not sick and very few of them died; but they were continually in mischief in the garden and among the flowers, and sometimes they would stray away from home long distances and not get back unless we hunted them up. We finally put up a shed for them adjoining the chicken house; but it was too open for their comfort.

Feeding and tending the chickens and ducks were the source of a great deal of pleasure for my wife and daughter, and seldom did our callers get away from the house without having the privilege of seeing and admiring this stock. The chicken house was almost as clean and neat as the parlor and I acknowledge I used to feel proud when I was showing Mr. Camden, or Mr. Hutchens, the choice ones of the flock in their comfortable quarters.

I have tried to find out exactly how the poultry stood at the end of the year; but I was not able to do this. No record was kept of the amount used in the family, and only an estimate could be made from what my wife and my daughter could remember of those sold. Of course this was not strictly reliable and therefore I do not place it on record here.

But the poultry paid more in the comfortable meals they afforded us, when we didn't know just what we wanted, than all their trouble and expense. In fact this last was imperceptible, being only a trifle in summer, and little else beside corn in winter. However we feed better now and get more eggs than we used to get.



I had written thus far when I chanced upon a memorandum book of my good wife in a pigeon hole of the desk, and it contained the following:

FIRST YEAR OF CHICKENS AND DUCKS.

29 Hens. 184 doz. eggs sold.

146 Chickens raised.

43 Ducks raised.

Here the memoranda began about something wholly foreign to poultry and the figures ended. But I believe in chickens and ducks.

(To be continued next week.)

---

### SUNSHINE.

Good people, have you got sunny houses? Does the sun shine out from your dwelling as well as in? Do the sweet, bright, life-giving rays of the light of the world, meet rays of domestic brightness and tenderness, beaming from your hearth-stones?

Do you carry smiling faces about with you? When you look in the mirror, by chance, do you see there cheerful, happy countenances?

And if there is sunshine in the parlor is there any enlivening ray of it in the kitchen? If there is merriment and laughter in the library, is it carried along with you up stairs into the nursery? Are there any rooms in your houses which are damp, gloomy, cold and inhospitable, from lack of the blessed inflowing of domestic sunlight?

Throw open the windows; set the doors ajar; let the fresh breeze of purifying cheerfulness sweep through and blow out disagreeable odors, the infectious melancholies, the cobwebs of suspicion, the dust of fault-finding which hides the beauties which lie beneath its distasteful mantle. Let the clean, searching air find out every nook and corner in which have been hid-

ing doubts or hates or envies. Let it filter through and make sweet all the places where selfishness has been breathing.

Send the full noonday sun of charity and trust and truth into it, and then invite your loved ones to enter.

Let your home, however large or small, elegant or simple, be scented continually with the flower-like odors of tenderness and consideration. Decorate your parlors with courtesy; spread your tables with generous hospitality. Let your loving smiles greet everyone in the house.

Why, friends, you will be astonished to see how light and airy and merry a place the home-nest is. It will be the nook to which you will turn naturally and gladly, as the dearest spot on earth. It will be one continual June day indoors. Winter and rain-storms, clouds and winds will not alter the sunshine inside. The seasons will not change your roses. They will be fadeless flowers, ever giving out fragrance.

They will grow and carry their sweetness with them, and the flood of radiance will follow you—yes—even into your graves, and make an added light and loveliness in heaven—*Golden Rule*.

---

### THINGS NOT TO BE DONE.

There are several things always absent in a true lady, which *Home Journal* reminds girls that they will do well to remember.

A lady for example will never ignore little kindnesses.

Conclude in a crowd that she has a right to push her way through.

Fail in answering letters or returning visits, unless ill or in trouble.

Fret about the heat or the cold, the sun or the rain, the air or lack of it.

Make an engagement and then not be on time.



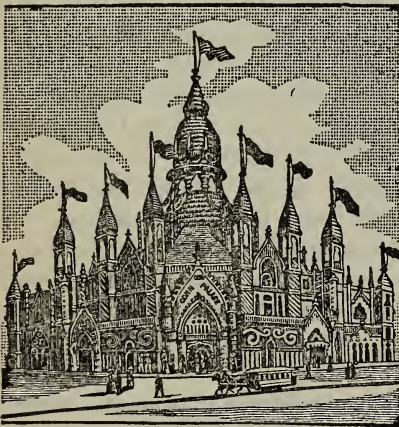
Complain of her family or discuss personal affairs with strangers.

Always believe the worst rather than the best side of a story.

A lady does not do any other than make the best of everything—the world, the weather and herself. She believes in the golden rule and endeavors as far as possible to live up to it; and that's what you and I ought to promise every morning we will try and do during the day.

### "EIGHTH WONDER OF THE WORLD."

The Sioux City Corn Palace is well called the "Eighth Wonder of the world," only those who have seen it can appreciate the wonderful beauties of corn as combined in artistic designs.



Sioux City Corn Palace.  
Opens September 25. Closes October 11, 1890.

A miniature Corn Palace, after the design of that at Sioux City, attracted a great deal of attention at the Paris Exposition, and the great Corn Belt of the United States was given full credit for its enterprise.

### MARYLAND FAIRS.

Cecil Co., Elkton, Oct. 7—10.  
John Partridge, Sec'y., Elkton, Md.

Frederick Co., Frederick, Oct. 14—17.  
Geo. W. Cramer, Sec'y., Frederick, Md.

Washington Co. Hagerstown, Oct. 14—17.  
P. A. Witmer, Sec'y., Hagerstown, Md.

Maryland State }  
combined with } Bel Air, Sep. 30—Oct. 3.  
Harford Co. }  
James W. McNabb, Sec'y., Bel Air Md.

Florida Sub-Tropical Exposition.  
Jacksonville, Fla. Jan'y. to May  
S. A. Adams, Sec'y., Jacksonville Fla.

Dentist: "Do you want to take laughing-gas?"

Visitor: "Not till after de toof is out boss,—reckon I'll feel mo' like laughin' den!"

Edward Bellamy has made \$16,000 by "Looking backward."

That is better than Lot's wife, who merely earned her salt.

"I understand that 'Little Lord Fauntleroy' was taken from life." "Was he? Well, I've no doubt that the poor little fellow was happy to go."

A dull English clergyman, who recently preached a very brilliant sermon on the text "Thou shalt not steal," was charged with having stolen it. He indignantly denied this, asserting that he had paid for it in cash at an agency where lithographed sermons are sold!

Justice: "I dislike to interrupt counsel, Mr. McCady, but it seems useless to hear further argument from you."

Mr. McCady: "I beg that your honor will hear me through. This alibi is not the only one my client can establish. He has another much stronger yet."

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Entered as second class matter at Baltimore, Md.

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THE  
**MARYLAND FARMER**  
 AND  
 NEW FARM.

*Agriculture, Live Stock and Home Life.*

Oldest Agricultural Journal in Maryland and  
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ISSUED EVERY WEEK.

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**THE PRESENT CONDITIONS.**

The condition of the crops and the prosperity of the farmers can in some measure be determined by the various State and county Fairs. This test gives on the whole a better outlook than for the past two or three years. The effect of the large purchases of silver and the greater issue of money is beginning to be felt by the people, and more generous prices for the smaller crops have brought some encouragement.

For prosperity the great need is the issuing of a more plentiful supply of money by the government and a more general distribution of it among the people. With this condition, it matters less the drift of other legislation. The

imposition of large and burdensome and unjust taxation is greatly to be deplored and we hail with gladness the uprising of farmer's organizations which are so formed as to handle political principles and mould political action.

It is on this account that we regard the Farmer's League and the Farmer's Alliance with so great favor. They are the growth of a necessity. It is their action which is bringing about the issue of money and its distribution, as also the condition of promise which now brightens somewhat the present outlook.

It is not to be expected that every proposition they make will meet with universal approbation; but the great movements will soon be under their control and will command such general attention that the right disposition of them will assuredly follow.

We cannot hope that the manufactured articles purchased by farmers will be much cheaper than in the past two or three years, and the existence of "trusts" will still require looking into by those who feel their villianous exactions. The monopolies of the Railroad corporations, by which the profits of entire crops are absorbed in the transportation charges should have determined action. Often farmers living within fifty miles of a market pay higher rates on their produce than others living a thousand miles distant. This through unjust classification and charges.

The condition on the whole are favorable for the breaking up of many of the impositions heretofore practiced upon farmers and, as intelligent action is organized, the political world will be forced to bring forward laws in behalf of the farmers.

Undoubtedly, the large sums for agricultural education, if they are not diverted into other channels, will be productive of great good and may be made the stepping



stone to more extensive and higher influence in the nation's counsels.

Let us prepare ourselves for decided and vigorous action, in behalf of those rights and against those oppressions, which shall bring us to the most prosperous condition befitting the intelligent farming community, by far the largest class of American Citizens.

---

#### GERANIUMS.

Last year we took up a large number of geraniums in the Autumn and hung them heads down in our cellar, where they were allowed to remain all last winter. This spring we found small white buds starting on the branches in all directions. We trimmed them down well and set them out in beds and they gave us abundant bloom. We advise our readers to try this.

Last spring we took a number of geraniums which had been wintered in pots in the house, shook off the soil from their roots and hung them heads down in the cellar. Last month we took them out, with the same white buds as in the other case plentifully showing, and re-potted them. They are leaving out well and we think we shall have a good report from them this winter.

---

#### THE COLORED ELEMENT.

The provision of the law, in the new appropriation to Agricultural Colleges, for the education of the negroes is not only just; but is also eminently wise. They are destined, sooner or later, to occupy a large share of the land devoted to farming, and they must be made intelligently to understand the great needs of the farming

community. Many of them are persevering and determined to learn. Such will make the best of producers, because labor is natural to them and their ambition to excel is easily made a ruling passion, when no labor, however excessive, becomes burdensome upon them.

The very best of teachers should be procured for the colored students, and wisdom should be exercised in the choice, so that with the knowledge imparted right influences may be given and proper principles be instilled into their minds.

Those who go out trained from our colleges, will have a strong influence among all their class and the training cannot be too carefully looked after by those who have the direction of these matters. Prompt action should be had and no loop-hole be left for the creeping in of principles which would result in confusion and disaster in the future.

---

#### CUTTINGS.

Much improvement can now be in preparation, if a small piece of ground is prepared for cuttings of all those plants and trees which shall be needed in years to come.

The general rule for planting cuttings is to have them about eight inches long and the uppermost bud on a level with the surface of the soil.

Plant them at a slight angle, of eighty or ninety degrees, and press fine soil hard against the cuttings.

Many flowering shrubs, planted in this way this Fall, will take root and begin growth early in spring. But the grapes, currants and gooseberries are especially appropriate for this work, and among the larger fruits quinces will repay this attention, scarcely one failing.



## HOW TO SHIP AND SELL HONEY.

**The Popular Demands in Both Comb and Extracted Honey.**

Valuable hints on shipping and selling honey appeared not long ago from a number of commission men in different sections of the country in Gleanings in Bee Culture.

By way of summary it is noted that the single tier case is invariably preferred, the capacity being anywhere from twelve to twenty-four pounds.

The 4½ sections are in most cases recommended, and light weight rather than over weight is preferred because most of the retail trade sell comb honey by the section and not by the pound. Commenting on this last A. I. Root, the editor, says: "Customers are beginning to demand 4½ sections, a little less in width than the regular 1 15-16, and we propose next year to make the 1½ section our standard instead of the 1 15-16." Most of the commission men wrote that they could sell dark honey in extracted form better than when in the comb, and they advised the producer to extract most of his dark honey if he wished to sell it.

The popularity of the sixty pound square tin can for shipping extracted honey is noted. Only two correspondents preferred barrels to the square cans. The latter costs about half a cent a pound, and new barrels can be had for about a quarter of a cent. It seems that there is only a quarter of a cent in favor of the barrels, and as commission men generally prefer the square cans producers may all gather a good hint here. The best time to move off comb honey is some time in the fall—it may be early or late. A good deal depends on circumstances and the judgment of the seller.

**For Eggs in Winter.**

To get many eggs, writes a New York correspondent, "one must give the hens some care and attention, and furnish them with warm and comfortable quarters. The pullets that were hatched early and the yearlings of last spring will be the best layers. After fowls pass their second year I think, as a general thing, they are not profitable as layers. Better kill them off than to keep old fowls. It is also a good thing to change, either by buying or exchanging, eggs for a setting, or by introducing some good fowls from a neighbor's flock. To in-

duce laying give plenty of meat scraps and some green food. See that they have gravel and plenty of pure water, and while they may run out freely during pleasant days, be careful and keep them housed up in cold, stormy weather.

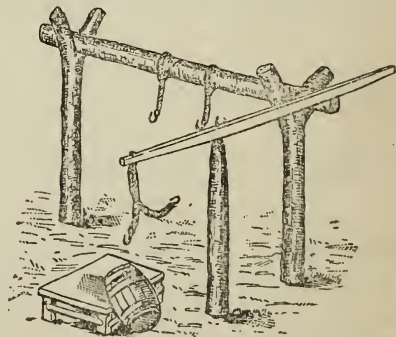
Don't allow them to run out on the snow or in rain storms. They must be kept out of windy weather and cold draughts if they are to lay eggs in the winter months. If they can be allowed to run in the animal stables in the daytime it will increase the egg production, and a roosting place where they get some warmth from the stabled animals, wherever it is at all practicable, will have a good effect on their laying. They want a sufficiency of food of a mixed character, mostly hard grains of different kinds, but not so much as to make them fat.

**Wheat Rust.**

Wheat rust belongs to a division of rusts where the fungi causing them develop in several apparently distinct stages or forms. In the first, or summer stage, the wheat rust fungi produce what is called "red rust," which may develop later in the season into the second stage, known as "black rust." This is much more injurious to the crop than red rust. Early ripening varieties may therefore escape serious injury, while those ripening late may be badly damaged by the rust.

**A Hog Slaughtering Device.**

The illustration here presented is from *Prairie Farmer* and speaks for itself.



A CONVENIENT DEVICE.

It is an arrangement that saves a great deal of heavy lifting to any farmer having from one to a dozen or more swine

to kill. The first hog dressed is lifted to the pole and shoved to the further end, the second against the first until all are up. A rope may be fastened on the end of a lever, so when the end is up in the air it can be pulled down without any trouble.

#### Things Said and Done.

Veterinary surgeons now use chloroform when operating upon animals for securing quietness and relieving pain.

Experiments conducted at the Cornell university station upon forcing plants by means of electric light have given interesting and definite results, which after another season's tests will be reported in due form.

An agricultural college and experiment station has been established in North Dakota.

The prospect is that the crop of Cape Cod cranberries will fall below the average yield.

Professor Riley announces that the department of agriculture hopes, with the assistance of Mr. Fred Enock, of London, to import some living specimens of a Russian parasite of the Hessian fly in order to endeavor to acclimatize it in this country.

The California Fruit Grower says that such a thing as watermelon sugar has been made in an experimental way, but there is no such industry established on the Pacific coast, neither is there any immediate prospect of it being done.

#### Filling the Ice House.

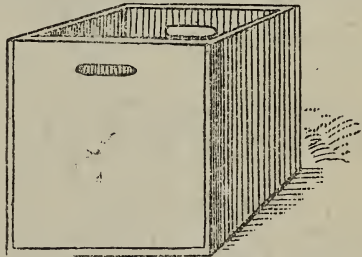
The plan here presented is advised by American Agriculturist: Lay boards from the ice up the bank to the top of an old packing box placed there. The box should be two feet higher than the bed of the wagon or sled in which the ice is to be hauled. The boards will soon become icy and the ice can easily be pulled or pushed along them to the box, and from it to the wagon or sled. The colder the weather the better for cutting ice. It is always easier to slide ice than to lift and wheel it. The prime point of putting the ice in the house is to fit the cakes closely together. The less air confined among the cakes the better the ice will keep. Make the crevices small and fill them with powdered ice.

#### Bushel Boxes for Marketing Early Potatoes and Handling the Crop Throughout the Season—A Top Box for the Wagon That Will Carry a Large Load.

In his useful little manual on potato culture Mr. T. B. Terry, of Ohio, calls attention to the use of bushel boxes for handling potatoes. He says:

For several years I have been using bushel boxes for marketing early potatoes while the skins slip, and for handling the crop in the field all through the season. This is one of the ways in which the potato specialist can get ahead of the small raiser. I think we handle our crop for less than half of what it used to cost us before we got these boxes made. Our boxes are 13 inches by 16, and 13 deep, all inside measures. They were made a little deeper to allow for shrinkage. The sides and bottoms are made of three-eighths stuff and the ends of five-eighths. Hand holes are cut in the ends as shown in the cut.

The upper corners are bound with galvanized hoop iron to make them strong. The price paid for them was from \$25 to \$30 a hundred at a box factory. The wood used is mostly whitewood. Some light wood should be used, of course, so as to make them as light as possible. They need not weigh more than six or seven pounds. Early in the season,



BUSHEL BOX WITH HAND HOLES.

while the skins slip, our potatoes are dug and laid (not thrown) into these boxes, and the boxes are covered as fast as filled. They are then safe from sun and rain until wanted for market. The covers are simply pieces of boards cut about 15 by 18 inches.

At the end of the season, when the boxes are filled for the last time, they may be carried down to the cellar and stored away full of potatoes, or apples may be put in them. There is no nicer way of marketing winter apples than in these bushel boxes. Again, in the spring they are just the thing to have the seed

The Maryland Farmer Purchasing Agency sends every department of purchasing—send to them.

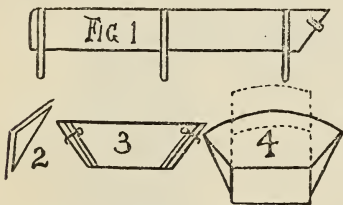


around in when cutting and to carry it to the field in.

When potatoes are drawn in bulk and for moving the boxes from field to field a top box that will carry a large load, and still not be very high to lift the potatoes over, saves some hard work. An ordinary farm wagon will hardly carry more than forty bushels, perhaps not that, with the top box on. When the roads are good a team can often draw fifty or sixty, if the wagon could be made to hold so many conveniently.

In the illustration is shown a top box successfully used and described by Mr. Terry. It is no higher to lift over than a common top box; it can be taken off or put on in a minute, and on a ten foot wagon box it will hold about sixty-six bushels of potatoes, or two tons. It is very useful for many other purposes beside hauling potatoes.

Fig. 1 shows one side board, eighteen inches wide, for a ten foot wagon box. Fig. 2 shows one of the three sets of irons that are on the side board. The inside iron is one inch by one-half inch. The outside iron is one inch by one-fourth inch, and the brace is a round rod one-half inch in diameter. This is amply strong enough to hold all the 18-inch wood one can pile on, a big load of hay, or all the potatoes that can be



TOP BOX FOR A WAGON.

heaped on. These irons are bolted to the side board, and simply slip on to the side of the wagon box, one each side. If the top box is to be used very much it is best to put some thin plates of band iron on the wagon box, to prevent the side board irons from wearing into it and to prevent splitting.

Fig. 3 shows the back end board, which has two wooden cleats on it to prevent splitting, and which fits in between two wooden cleats on the inside of each side board, and is held in place by hooks which hook into eyes on the side boards.

In Fig. 4 the plain lines show a cross section of box, top box, braces and top of load. The lower dotted show, at a

glance, how much less a common top box of the same height would hold, while the upper dotted lines show how very high the common top box would have to be in order to hold as much. Still, the dotted lines show the kinds mostly in use, and the high one, or double top box, will cost more than my kind, and is much harder to load into. The brake handle comes up through a hole in the side board near the front, and two pieces of board are nailed together to set around it, so as to keep potatoes from interfering with its movement—a simple little device that any one can study up without a cut.

#### A New Departure in Ensilage.

To Mr. T. D. Peterson, of Wolverhampton, England, the inventor of the roller process for pressing ensilage stacks, is due the invention of a new method of heating green forage or grass when placed in silos. It is that of exhausting the silo of all air when in the course of filling by an exhaust fan placed outside, and worked either by hand or other power. A connecting pipe passes from the inside of the silo to the fan, and the valve on the pipe is open when the fan is at work.

#### Salting Butter.

The excellence of the butter made from the fragrant pastures can only be preserved for any length of time by the best methods of churning and salting. Butter that otherwise might be classed as good is often reduced to an inferior grade by the manner in which it is treated at the time of salting. A great deal of butter is overchurned, by which it is pounded into a creamy, pasty condition, exactly the opposite of what it should be. To get the best results from salting butter the churning should stop when it has fairly granulated. At this stage the buttermilk should be drawn off and the butter washed with cold water or cold, weak brine, until it runs off clear. Then strong, clear brine may be poured on, to remain until the butter has absorbed enough of the salt, or fine, dry salt—one ounce to the pound—should be sifted on and worked in so that it will dissolve. After this a light second working should be given to clear it of any buttermilk that may be drawn out by the salting. Throughout the entire process the utmost care should be taken not to break the grain of the butter.

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## SETTING FENCE POSTS.

**Useful Hints That Will Assist in Saving Time and Labor.**

In most sections of the country the setting of fence and other small posts is nearly done away with, for the reason that they are and can be more quickly driven. In soil subject to heaving by



SHARPENING POSTS.

action of frost heaved posts are also easily redriven to their original depth, which cannot be done with posts that are set and have blunt ends. Farmers also have learned that, nine times in ten, posts rot away a little below and at the surface of the ground; hence a cumbersome piece of wood placed two feet or more below the surface is comparatively useless.

A simple arrangement for holding posts while these are sharpened was recently illustrated and described by Rural New Yorker and is here reproduced for the benefit of our readers. A pole about twenty feet in length is split at one end and supported by wooden legs six feet in length set in a bracing position, as shown in the cut. One end of the post rests upon a block, the other is supported and held firmly in the V shaped split in the end of the pole. This is a cheap holder and one readily moved about as desired.

There are many plans for preserving fence posts. Perhaps the following is as good as any and it has the merit of being within the reach of all at a very small expense. Let the posts get thoroughly dry, and then, with a pan of cheap kerosene and a whitewash brush, give the lower third of the post, the part to go into the ground, two or three good applications of the oil, letting it soak in well each time. Posts so treated will not be troubled by worms or insects of any kind, but will resist decay to a remarkable degree.

**The Increased Use of Digging Harrows.**

There is a belief among some farmers that the increased use of the new diggers and cutting harrows is to be condemned

because such tools lessen the use of the plow and lead to shallow tillage. Rural New Yorker, with a view to deciding the true use of digging harrows, invited correspondence on the subject from leading agriculturists. The replies elicited made apparent the fact that the character of the soil, the season and the crop itself all have something to do with determining the depth to which the soil should be stirred. Professor Cook favored the plan of plowing in the fall and harrowing in the spring. T. H. Hoskins, of Vermont, does not want deep plowing and has used the cutting harrow with great satisfaction. H. H. Wing, of Ithica, believes that the deep working harrows may be used in place of the plow in preparing stubble ground on light friable soils for oats and barley. E. Davenport, of Michigan, regards these cutting harrows as a great advance on other devices for firming the bottom of the seed bed and for fitting soil for corn. The journal quoted from says: "It is quite evident that under certain conditions the digging harrows may be used to save a great deal of work."

**Brine Salting of Butter.**

One of our best dairy authorities says in The New York Times that another fad, recently introduced into the dairy, has perished of its own inherent weakness and inconsistency. This is brine salting of butter, a troublesome and useless practice, which has at last proved to its advocates that it is a roundabout way of arriving at an end fully secured by the common practice of salting with dry salt. To salt butter sufficiently with brine one must incorporate with the butter just so much water and no more as will dissolve half an ounce of salt to the pound of butter. But the butter, as it comes from the churn, washed free of the milk, already contains more water than will make a saturated solution with this quantity of salt, and consequently it is clearly impossible to get salt enough in the butter by brine salting without leaving too much water in it. One ounce of the finest dry salt well incorporated with a pound of butter will draw the excess of water from it, leaving half an ounce of the salt in every pound of it.

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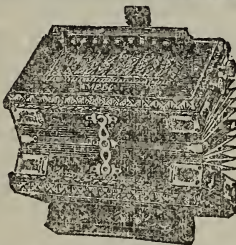
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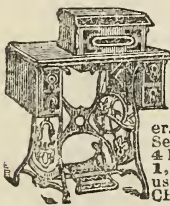
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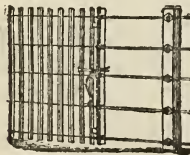
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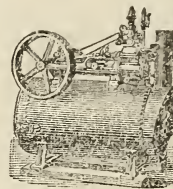
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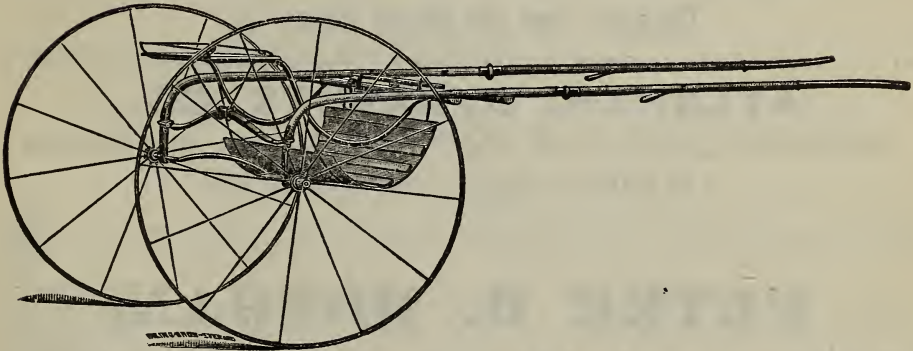
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